Women of Color Meeting
May 11, 1990 General Meeting Minutes
Facilitator Sandy Enos

Autonomy of Women of Color

Affiliation with AALGA--Discussion of autonomy and political affiliation with the African American Lesbian and Gay Alliance (AALGA) was continued. The group decided by unanimous vote for us to define ourselves as an autonomous organization, distinct from rather than as a sub-division or subsidiary group of AALGA. We decided to notify AALGA by letter of our decision and to assure them that it is one based on political considerations for autonomy.

Name change--In order to maintain our autonomy, it was decided that a name change would have to occur. Several suggestions were made (Sistahs of Color, Sistahs, etc.). The creation of a Names Committee was suggested, and Kelley and Linda offered to serve in those positions. More suggestions for names will be brought to the next meeting for us to vote on.

Accessible Meeting Space

Several more suggestions for accessible meeting spaces were given (Karuna, ALFA House, Charis). Everyone was in favor of accessibility. By unanimous vote, the group decided to meet at Charis for the June meeting. Helena offered to be responsible for securing the keys for the space.

Update on Newsletter

Everyone thanked the newsletter staff for their hard work. We were impressed by the quality of the newsletter. Anyone who wanted to work on the newsletter was invited to participate, and submissions from everyone were encouraged. The deadline for the June issue is May 22. Deadlines for subsequent issues will be seven to ten days before the first of each month. Financial donations to the newsletter were encouraged.

Expenses

We were reminded by Elaine that we still needed to reimburse members for their financial contributions (about $75) to Gifts of the Heart. Reimbursement to the newsletter staff (about $30) was also mentioned. Sandy told us that we had about $60 in the treasury fund. It was decided that, since we were in debt, we would reimburse everyone as the money came in. Ami reminded us that a suggested donation of $2.00 is asked of everyone at each general meeting. The steering committee said they would work on some ideas for fundraisers and bring them before the group at the next meeting. Everyone was encouraged to bring fundraiser ideas to the next meeting.

Steering Committee

The steering committee (Sandy, Ami, Pat) asked for volunteers to participate on the committee. It was noted that three more wimmin are

needed to commit six months of attendance at the meetings and that anyone could attend the steering committee meetings. It was suggested that anyone interested in participating could attend a few times to see if she wanted to commit for the entire time. Linda and Kelley said they would try to make it to the next meeting. No one officially volunteered, so the steering committee asked everyone to consider their decisions until the next general meeting.

Mail-out Committee

Sandy asked for volunteers to maintain the mailing list and to mail out any necessary flyers to the group. Ami told everyone that several wimmin were sending letters and notes to the group, asking for information. Elaine said she would be glad to maintain the mailing list if the task only involved putting additional names on the list. It was noted that the group doesn't have the funds to mail out on a regular basis. Sandy and Ami volunteered to mail out the minutes of the meeting to inform everyone of the new meeting space, etc.

General Discussion

Ami asked if the group could change the meeting time back to 7:30 pm instead of 8:00 pm in order to keep the meeting from running too late. Everyone agreed and the meeting time will be at 7:30 pm every second friday in the month.

NOTE: June's general meeting will be held on June 8, 7:30 pm at Charis Books and More on Euclid and Moreland Ave. The agenda will include suggestions for names, discussion of a statement of purpose, ideas for fundraisers, and discussion of volunteers for the steering committee. All wimmin are welcome! Don't miss it!!!!

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Women of Color Meeting
June 8, 1990

Agenda

1. Check-in

2. Review of Agenda

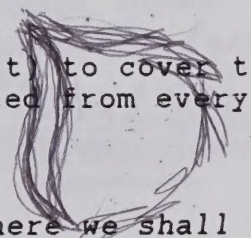
3. Autonomy of Women of Color
   --Suggestions for name change?
   --Discussion of purpose statement(s)

4. Steering Committee
   --Volunteers needed!!!!

5. Expenses
   --Update on group finances
   --Ideas for fundraisers

6. Miscellaneous
   --Newsletter (submissions, donations)
   --Announcements (videofest II, etc.)
   --Next month's agenda???

*** $2 donation (more if you can, less if you can't) to cover the group's miscellaneous expenses is greatly appreciated from everyone



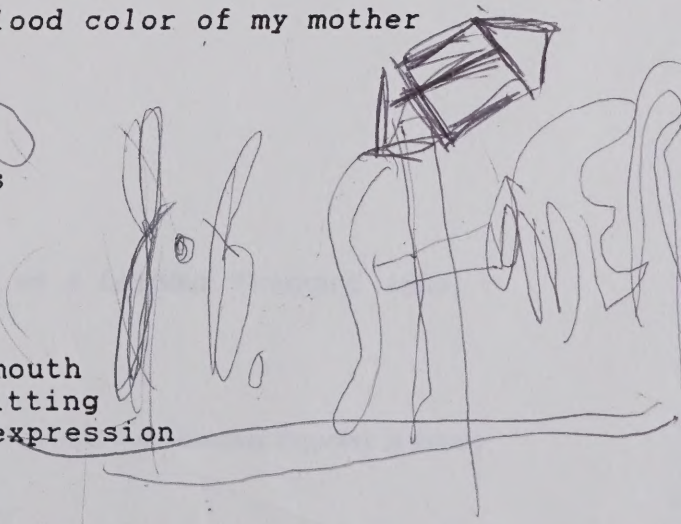
Afrekete Afrekete ride me to the crossroads where we shall sleep, coated in the woman's power. The sound of our bodies meeting is the prayer of all strangers and sisters, that the discarded evils, abandoned at all crossroads, will not follow us upon our journeys.

--Audre Lorde
ZAMI: A New Spelling of My Name

I am a white girl gone brown to the blood color of my mother
speaking for her

as it should be
dark women come to me
sitting in circles
I pass through their hands
the head of my mother
painted in clay colors

touching each carved feature
swollen eyes and mouth
they understand the explosion the splitting
open contained within the fixed expression



they cradle her silence
nodding to me

--Cherríe Moraga
"For the Color of My Mother" from
Lesbian Poetry

Xerox p. 5

Women of Color Meeting
July 13, 1990

PO Box

AGENDA

1. Check-in

2. Review of Agenda

3. Review Minutes, June 8, 1990
   -approve Minutes

4. Naming of Organization

5. Imani
   -needs committee

6. Steering Committee
   -discussion of guidelines
   -formation of committee

7. Expenses/Fundraising
   -balance of account
   -planned activity: Film Festival: August 11, 1990; Iris' from 6pm ~~til, BYOEA~~
   - two concurrent set of films; $3 admission.

8. Miscellaneous

Each day I wear one in my buttonhole or behind my ear. I wear the last one pinned to my green lapel. She nearly withers during the delay in Baltimore. I revive her in Newark. She spreads herself finally in a short glass of water with a wide mouth. I send her two pairs of my dirty bikini briefs and a scribbled poem in plain brown wrapper:

'And that's how it is.
Truth be told.
I can't be without somebody to sleep with.
It's the body.
A woman's—must be a woman's.
And yours was superb and particular
for arms, legs, breasts
supplanting the seduction of dreams.'

--Cheryl Clarke, ***Living as a Lesbian***, Firebrand 1986.

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State ~~Rosa~~ Rosa 1 side - announcement about meeting

↓ call for interested "members"

- statement of purpose: Sept 14 or Oct.

- structure/org. of group.

So far - film festival

- live to do:

Furniture Sale

owner/where the man in her life could
probably be. But no show. She was out.
By herself. On the street:
As fine, as ready to go as anythin you could
ever possibly want to see so
I checked out myself: what's this?
Then I lost my control; I couldn't resist.
What did she expect? She looked foreign
besides and small and sexy
and fast
by the curb. So I lost my control and
I forced her open and I entered
her body and I poured myself
into her
pumpin for all I was worth
wild as I was
when you caught me

third time apprehended
for the theft of a Porsche."

-from ***Passion: New Poems, 1977-1980***, by June Jordan, Boston: Beacon Press, 1980.

Women of Color Meeting
July 13, 1990

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Women of Color Meeting
July 13, 1990

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3. Review Minutes, June 8, 1990
   -approve Minutes

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Zami: Women of Color
Meeting
August 10, 1990

2nd donation announcement

AGENDA

1. Check-in -
2. Review of Agenda
3. Needs: Secretary and Tresurer; problems with last minutes; evident in #4 of agenda:
4. Review Minutes, July 13, 1990
5. Discussion/clarification from June 8 meeting of statement of purpose;
6. Organization/structure of group
7. Steering committee needs
8. "Membership" drives
9. Social committee/plans
10. Annoucements; miscellany
    Lesbian Film Festival; Saturday, August 11, 1990 at Iris'; 6pm-until; BYOB/E

"The Rationale" or "She Drove Me Crazy"

"Well, your Honor,
it was late. Three A.M. Nobody on the streets.
And I was movin along, mindin my business when
suddenly there she was
alone
by herself
gleamin under the street lamp. I thought
'Whoa. Check this out? Hey, Baby! What's
happenin?,' I said under my breath.
And I tried to walk past but she was lookin
so good and
the gleam and the shine and
the beautiful lines of her
body sittin out there
alone
by herself
made me wild. I went wild. But
I looked all around to see where her

Zeta Women of Color
Meeting
August 10, 1990

AGENDA

1. Check-in
2. Review of Agenda
3. Heads: Secretary and Treasurer; problems with last minutes; evident in #4 of agenda
4. Review Minutes, July 13, 1990
5. Discussion/clarification from June 8 meeting of statement of purpose;
6. Organizational structure of group
7. Steering committee needs
8. "Membership" drives
9. Social committee plans
10. Announcements; miscellany
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"The Rainmaker" or "She Drove Me Crazy"

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Social Comm.

Shan
Angie
Angela

owner/where the man in her life could
probably be. But no show. She was out.
By herself. On the street:
As fine, as ready to go as anythin you could
ever possibly want to see so
I checked out myself: what's this?
Then I lost my control; I couldn't resist.
What did she expect? She looked foreign
besides and small and sexy
and fast
by the curb. So I lost my control and
I forced her open and I entered
her body and I poured myself
into her
pumpin for all I was worth
wild as I was
when you caught me

third time apprehended
for the theft of a Porsche."

Marguette
Loretta
Mary
Optima
Deanna's
Coyote

Selma: Said protest march in
Selma.

-from ***Passion: New Poems, 1977-1980***, by June Jordan, Boston: Beacon Press, 1980.

NOTES:

Voice relationship
People of Color

began - intros

announcements:

Reviewed 07/13/90 meeting

Name - Zami from Lorde's work

Laura said @ 8/2/90 issued/dated for 9/14/90.-
send submissions to P.O. Box #.
print monthly;
- Smaller mail; will allow for flexibility;
- 9/4/90 Steering Committee

Creative Loafing
Southern Voice
Etc.!

"Camping"
Barbecue
Bowling
Skating
Dancer
Show

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probably be. But no show. She was out
By herself. On the street:
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NOTES:

ZAMI:
WOMEN OF COLOR

Meeting Schedule

2nd Friday of Each Month

7:00 PM

Charis Books and More
419 Moreland Avenue, N.E. Little Five Points

If you are a lesbian of color and interested in becoming a part of a progressive organization please plan to attend our next meeting. Or fill out the form below and return it to the address listed below.

Zami
P O Box 9247
Atlanta, Georgia 30312

ALL INFORMATION IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Name

Address

Phone